

Mississippi Development Authority  
By Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., Executive Director  
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On behalf of the staff at the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) I commend the Delta Business Journal for your efforts in reporting on issues that are critical to the members of the business community. Your decision to recognize the Top 50 Under 50 is truly a credit to your publication. It is important for everyone to know just what a talented and dedicated group of Mississippians we have, out there every day contributing to our society. The individuals profiled in this issue are the ones making a difference in the lives of the citizens of Mississippi.

Economic development means jobs...either by creation or the retention of jobs for Mississippi. This is and will continue to be our primary goal and responsibility. The creation of jobs, good high-paying jobs improves the quality of life for our citizens and enables our state to move forward. The members of the business community highlighted in this issue represent a variety of new and expanded business ventures.

MDA recognizes how important each new or expanded business is to Mississippi. We are committed to move Mississippi forward, improve our competitiveness and raise awareness about Mississippi both nationally and internationally. Everyone is aware of the various projects that we have been able to secure. We are now competitive with other states for projects where in the past we were not even considered. We are able to do this because of individuals such as the Top 50 Under 50 because of their interest, involvement and support. All of these are critical components that help place Mississippi on the consideration list of companies seeking strategic locations to grow their businesses.

The Top 50 Under 50 are building the future of opportunities for our people, a future bright with success and prosperity. We want to continue to improve opportunities for Mississippi's best and brightest to find good paying jobs and professional paths and remain in their home state. We are committed to improvement by building alliances between public and private sectors that make our state stronger. Through these partnerships, we are attracting the attention of national and international companies as we communicate CEO to CEO.

Your confidence in Mississippi and its work force sends a strong signal to business and industry that Mississippi is a good place to do business. We appreciate the quality jobs and development you bring to the Delta.

In closing, MDA appreciates each person highlighted in this issue. Each individual has given his or her best. You have accomplished something we can all be proud of. You as individuals are uniquely important to MDA. You have worked hard with great results and we appreciate it. Keep up the good work.

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